

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

FEBRUARY 23, 1863.

Read twice, referred to the Committee for the District of Columbia, and ordered to be printed.

Mr. DELANO, on leave, introduced the following bill:

**A BILL**

To authorize the citizens of the District of Columbia to send a delegate to the Congress of the United States.

1      *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2      *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*  
3      That, from and after the fourth of March, eighteen hundred  
4      and sixty-three, and until further legislation in the premises,  
5      the citizens of the District of Columbia shall be, and they  
6      are hereby, authorized and entitled to send to the thirty-  
7      eighth and each subsequent Congress of the United States a  
8      delegate who shall have a seat in the House of Representa-  
9      tives of the United States, with all the rights, powers, and  
10     privileges of membership of said body as now belong to del-  
11     egates of the several Territories of the United States.

1      SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted,* That, preparatory to  
2      the election of said delegate to the thirty-eighth Congress,  
3      and as soon after the passage of this act as is practicable, the  
4      President of the United States shall, by his proclamation,

5 designate and establish such convenient voting precincts  
6 within the District of Columbia as shall, in his judgment,  
7 best accommodate the citizens of said District who may  
8 under the provisions of this act be qualified to vote in said  
9 election of delegate. And the precincts so designated and  
10 established shall remain as at first constituted until otherwise  
11 altered by law.

1       SEC. 3. *And be it further enacted,* That on the first  
2 Monday in May, anno Domini eighteen hundred and sixty-  
3 three, and on the first Monday of January in every second  
4 year thereafter, computing from the first Monday in January,  
5 eighteen hundred and sixty-five, it shall be the right and  
6 privilege of every free white male citizen of the United  
7 States, above the age of twenty-one years, who has resided  
8 in said District for one year next preceding said election, to  
9 vote in the precinct where he resides at such election of  
10 delegate.

1       SEC. 4. *And be it further enacted,* That it shall be the  
2 duty of the Secretary of the Interior of the United States,  
3 thirty days at least before the time of holding any election  
4 contemplated by this act, to appoint, under his hand in wri-  
5 ting, two inspectors of election for each of the voting pre-  
6 cincts constituted under the second section, who, before  
7 entering on the duties of their office, shall take an oath faith-  
8 fully to perform the duties assigned to them under this act; and

9 it shall be the further duty of said inspectors immediately  
10 after their appointment to prepare one or more books, in  
11 which shall be registered the names of all persons entitled to  
12 vote under the provisions of this act at the then next ensuing  
13 election of delegate. And no person shall be deemed quali-  
14 fied to vote at any election unless his name shall be registered  
15 in said book or books prior to the opening of the polls on the  
16 day of said election. And the said inspectors shall cause the  
17 polls to be opened and kept open in convenient places in their  
18 respective precincts from the hour of ten o'clock a. m. till five  
19 o'clock p. m., and shall preside at and conduct the said elec-  
20 tion within their several precincts.

1        SEC. 8. *And be it further enacted,* That all votes received  
2 at said polls, under the direction of said inspectors, shall be  
3 upon written or printed ballots; and when deposited, the  
4 name of the voter shall be checked on the book where regis-  
5 tered; and after the expiration of the time for keeping open  
6 the polls, the inspectors shall, in their respective precincts,  
7 count said ballots; and shall duly make their return in dupli-  
8 cate, and under oath, in which the said inspectors shall cer-  
9 tify who were voted for at said election, and the whole  
10 number of votes cast for each person voted for; and shall,  
11 within five days after the day of holding said election, trans-  
12 mit one copy of said return to the Secretary of the Interior  
13 and one copy to the Clerk of the House of Representatives.

1        SEC. 6. *And be it further enacted,* That the said in-  
2        spectors shall receive for their services, when duly vouched  
3        and audited, such compensation as may in each case be here-  
4        after provided.

to authorize the President of the United States to send a delegate to the Congress of the United States.

FEBRUARY 28, 1863.—Read twice, referred to the Committee for the District of Columbia, and ordered to be printed.